

The Times

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WALTER STILSON, President.

Circulation Statement.

The circulation of The Times for the week ended December 10, 1900, was as follows:

Sunday, December 10.....10,908

Monday, December 11.....10,908

Tuesday, December 12.....10,908

Wednesday, December 13.....10,908

Thursday, December 14.....10,908

Friday, December 15.....10,908

Saturday, December 16.....10,908

Total.....70,248

Daily average (Sunday, 10,908, excepted).....23,562

The Philippine Question.

Perhaps it may be a surprise to many

Americans to learn that the Administration

is weakening on the Philippine question,

but nevertheless it is true. To citizens

who have failed to watch the evolution

of the imperial idea this may come as

a startling fact. The Administration

is quite a long way from the position of

a party effort to change the institutions of

the country, resulting in trouble which

the Administration now recognizes as permanent,

and from which it would like to be rid.

It is not so long ago that the American

people were solidly in support of President

McKinley in his determination to keep

and develop the Philippine Archipelago

as an American possession. The intelligent

and patriotic masses of the country considered

the acquisition of Porto Rico and the Philippines

as a sacred trust—a trust for the people freed

from Spanish misrule and tyranny—and expected

the Government and the party in power

to take the same view of the matter. They

confidently believed that Porto Rico and

the Philippines would be treated as

American Territories, organs of self-government

relieved from the tariff prohibitions which

apply to foreign commerce, and brought

under the flag coincidently with the

Constitution. As late as one year ago, the

President and his Cabinet notoriously

were convinced that only under the

Constitution could the new possessions be

held and administered. But the trust,

seeing that it would be a question between

the Constitution of the United States and

their monarchical impulses, was likely to

Public opinion today, and the strong

probability that the Supreme Court will

decide that the flag and sovereignty of the

Republic cannot exist anywhere except

under and by authority of the Constitution,

from which alone they derive their

being, have led the Administration, or

rather, its industrial and financial

control, to take pause. They do not for a

moment contemplate the surrender of the

home monopoly, with the interests of

which leading Republicans, official and

unofficial, are so intimately identified;

and, if the possession of islands is to

jeopard these interests, they are greatly

inclined to let the islands go. It will be

had enough if they are compelled to treat

the people of Porto Rico with equity and

according to solemn pledges. The Supreme

Court may compel them to do that; but

that the Philippines also should be

governed, not looted, under the

provisions of our fundamental law, is a

proposition which the sugar, tobacco, and

other trusts which dominate the party in

THE CANAL AGREEMENT.

Text of the Canal Agreement Between the United States and Costa Rica.

The following is the text of the diplomatic agreement recently arranged between the Government of the United States and the Governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the preliminary to a treaty for the building of the Nicaragua Canal, and not heretofore published:

"It is agreed between the two Governments that when the President of the United States is authorized by law to acquire control of such portion of the territory now belonging to Costa Rica as may be desirable and necessary on which to construct a canal of depth and capacity sufficient for the passage of vessels of the greatest tonnage and draft now in use, from a point near San Juan de Norte, on the Caribbean Sea, via Lake Nicaragua, to Brito, on the Pacific Ocean, they mutually engage to enter into negotiations with each other to settle the place and extent of the land to be necessary to accomplish the construction and to provide for the ownership and control of the proposed canal.

"It is further agreed that the negotiations shall be conducted on the basis of the principle that the canal shall be owned and controlled by the United States and the terminals thereof shall be the same that were stated in a treaty signed by the Plenipotentiaries of the United States and Great Britain on February 5, 1900, and now pending in the Senate of the United States, and that the provisions of the same shall be adhered to by the United States and Costa Rica.

"During the course of his speech in executive session Saturday and Monday last, and which was fully within their duty, Senator Morgan said of the agreement:

"These treaties and protocols—those with Nicaragua and those with Costa Rica—present fully the diplomatic situation before the question of the exclusive control by the United States and under their auspices of a ship canal from Brito, Greytown, through Nicaragua and Costa Rica. As matters have turned out since the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty, the United States Senate, these protocols are the key to the situation respecting our exclusive right to construct, own, control, manage, and operate a canal between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and the United States will not refuse the concession defined and described in that measure, but will treat with us as to the terms on which they will be granted and accepted. Costa Rica have decided for themselves and in their own right the question in the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty about which there has been serious controversy in this debate, the clause in Article II, that 'no fortifications shall be erected commanding the canal or the waters adjacent.' The simplest suggestion of their reasons for this wise provision establishes its necessity to them.

"An enemy strong enough to capture them would convert them into facilities for the perpetual occupation of their country.

"If the United States should erect and man such fortifications the sovereignty of these States would be placed in jeopardy. It would become an illusion or shadow of authority that a paramount military power would soon dispel. And when the United States is established in such fortifications they will become our possessions which are open to attack by an enemy of the United States with whom Nicaragua and Costa Rica are at peace.

"We have no right to ask or expect from these States any concession that exposes them to such risks, however able we are to take care of ourselves. It is to that effect would never be violated, nor would we ever use the fortifications against them for purposes of aggression; and if they are fully satisfied with the terms of the agreement, they insist that we shall not make a military camp of their country."

THREATENED BY CANNIBALS.

Christians in the New Hebrides in Need of Protection.

The Rev. Joseph F. Hill, of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, called on President McKinley yesterday and asked that an American warship be sent to the New Hebrides Islands to protect the Christian natives and missionaries there from cannibals and to remove them out of the islands.

The President told Mr. Hill to put the request in writing and he would lay it before the Cabinet at today's meeting.

FOR THE WELFARE OF CITIES.

Topics Discussed by the League of American Municipalities.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 13.—The League of American Municipalities held two business sessions today and went on a rainy-day outing to the seashore, where a banquet was served. At the meeting this morning Mayor Johnson, of Fargo, N. D., read a paper on the contract system for street improvement, and Mayor Weekly, of Florence, Ala., discussed the best method for the collection of taxes. Health Officer Brunner, of Savannah, Ga., read a paper on "The Prevention of the Introduction of Epidemic Diseases into the States."

A motion was adopted requiring Mr. Brunner to draft a bill for more stringent quarantine laws, which will be presented by the league to Congress. An effort was made to take action on a paper read by Mayor Johnson, of Fargo, N. D., but this failed, and officers will be elected Saturday. Mayor Maybury, of Detroit, is the leading candidate for president. A number of cities are working for the next convention to be held in New York, possibly in the lead. A number of papers were read at the meeting tonight.

APPOINTMENT FOR MIRO.

The Cuban General Sails for the Isle of Pines.

SANTIAGO, Cuba, Dec. 13.—Gen. Jose Miro, who has been living in retirement since the conclusion of the war, has sailed for the Isle of Pines. He has accepted an appointment under the government.

Keeper of a gambling house was found stabbed in the heart near the custom house. The body had been stripped of valuables. The murderer, a Cuban named Jose Soler, was captured this morning as he was endeavoring to make his escape on a vessel bound for Jamaica.

The Sentiment of the West.

(From the Chicago Tribune.)

If there is any Congressman who says that tariff duties should not be reduced when a manufacturer is a domestic producer, he is criminating against his own country, he may as well put down as the representative of some wealthy corporation which will be unable to collect subsidies if duties are lowered to a reasonable figure. The "Tribune" holds it to be a self-evident truth that any manufacturer who has an export and a domestic price—the former the lower of the two—is not entitled to tariff protection.

Lord Butte's Heart.

(From the London Chronicle.)

If Lady Butte's heart is an episode with medical associations, nothing could be more modern than Lord Butte's other wishes in regard to his obsequies. His own great wish was that when his heart went to the Holy Land the rest of his body should be buried in Scotland. The Roman decree which excommunicates all Roman Catholics who take part in carrying out funerals barred the way to the fulfillment of his desire. The nearest canonical shot out to the fulfillment of his wish was to fill his coffin with quicklime, and this accordingly was done.

CUBA AFRAID OF TRUSTS.

Text of the Provisional Law Made Against the Combinations.

HAVANA, Dec. 13.—Senator Nunez has proposed in the constitutional convention that the Government should be authorized to take action against combinations of capitalists tending to destroy legitimate competition. One of the great fears of many Cubans is that the island will be eaten up by trusts.

Out of the 122 municipalities in the island and thirty will be suppressed in the course of the next few months, it having been decided that they are superfluous. Senator Tamayo, Secretary of State, calculates that the saving to the State will be great, owing to the fact that these municipalities, in addition to being unnecessary, leave a big deficit, which has to be met by the Government.

The dissolution of the Bar Association continues to be widely discussed. Many lawyers are very much pleased by the dissolution, as the association was only a platform for the lawyers to display their power. It is perfectly clear that the election of the four dissident judges as members of the Executive Committee of the association has been a blow to the lawyers. The President, Capote and Gualberto Gomez to insure Secretary General, and to, if possible, secure the substitution of a partisan of their own in his stead.

Even some of the antagonists of Senator General say that the action of the association was foolish, as, after the polite letter sent to the Government, the lawyers should have shown good faith and waited until the judges were tried before electing them.

Senator Capote and his supporters are exasperated over the failure of their plan. Gualberto Gomez, in the course of a speech, said that the Cubans were now growing tired of the Government, and that they should go to the woods and die than to allow the judges to continue as they are.

COUNTLESS O'REILLY'S HEIRS.

They Seek to Collect Havana Slaughter House Fees.

The Secretary of War yesterday granted a hearing to Gen. B. F. Tracy, Crammond Kennedy, and Dr. Rodriguez, representing the claim of the heirs of Countess O'Reilly, of Buena Vista, and Don Gustavo Gallet Duplessis, of Havana, in a claim against the United States for fees collected under military jurisdiction at the city slaughter house of Havana.

When General Brooke assumed authority as Military Governor of Cuba he found the city slaughter house in the hands of the O'Reilly family, and accordingly issued the following order: "The city slaughter house, of which the O'Reilly family, grantees or lessees, are now the proprietors, is hereby sold to the Government from the original grant in 1874, is hereby terminated and declared null and void."

The granting of this privilege, nearly two hundred years ago by the Crown of Spain carried with it the title of Alcaide de la Habana, or High Sheriff of Havana, and the right to collect fees for slaughter-house service, and collected fees for the inspection of every animal killed. Under a certain Spanish rule, the O'Reilly family, who owned one-half of the elements of this office to meet private debt, Dr. Duplessis in 1895 purchased a one-half interest. The complainants say that the O'Reilly family, who owned one-half of the elements of this office to meet private debt, Dr. Duplessis in 1895 purchased a one-half interest. The complainants say that the O'Reilly family, who owned one-half of the elements of this office to meet private debt, Dr. Duplessis in 1895 purchased a one-half interest.

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